



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FACT SHEET

SAN YSIDRO BORDER EXPANSION PROJECT TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION THIS SUMMER

SANDERS WILL CONTINUE LOBBYING EFFORTS TO INCREASE REGIONAL COMMERCE

As the result of \$195 million in funds appropriated by Congress, the U.S. General Services Administration (GSA) is scheduled to begin work this summer on Phase 1A of the San Ysidro Port of Entry reconfiguration and expansion project. President Bush's budget proposal for the next fiscal year includes an additional \$59 million for this same project.

Since taking office in December 2005, San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders has repeatedly lobbied federal and state officials to commit their support and funding to border infrastructure projects. Sanders has also made the establishment of a new commercial port of entry east of the existing Otay Mesa crossing a top priority. Recently, he joined regional leaders in asking the U.S. government for a Presidential Permit for this project.

The region's lobbying efforts have paid off handsomely. In addition to the money from the Congress, the California Transportation Commission recently awarded the San Diego region over \$100 million for border related transportation projects.

To ensure the success of these projects, Sanders will continue working with government officials on both sides of the border. The cooperation of a number of diverse parties on the U.S. side will be essential. Those include: The U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency; the GSA; the Federal Highway Administration; the California Department of Transportation; SANDAG; and the City of San Diego. Additionally, the Mayor will continue to work closely with Mexican government officials to ensure that the infrastructure to support these projects is matched on the other side of the border.

REBUILDING SAN YSIDRO BORDER CROSSING SUPPORTS ECONOMIC GROWTH

Redeveloping the San Ysidro Border Crossing is imperative for the region's long-term economic health. A study by the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) shows that traffic

congestion and wait times along the border cost the U.S. and Mexican economies close to \$7.2 billion in foregone gross output and more than 62,000 jobs in 2007 alone.

Rebuilding the San Ysidro facility will help alleviate those delays and will help to accommodate the massive increase in border crossings anticipated to occur in the next decade. The San Ysidro Port of Entry is the busiest land border crossing point in the western hemisphere with more than 120,000 crossings by vehicles and pedestrians each day. The total number of crossings is expected to increase by more than 50% by 2020 with vehicle traffic across the border increasing up to 70% by 2030.

PROJECT WILL COMPLETELY REMAKE SAN YSIDRO PORT OF ENTRY

The San Ysidro Reconfiguration and Expansion Project will help to reduce border wait times and result in a safe, secure and efficient border crossing between the United States and Mexico. The project includes:

- Demolition of the Existing Port of Entry facilities
- 29 inbound vehicle lanes
- 2 bus lanes
- 6 outbound vehicle lanes
- New primary and secondary inspection areas
- New administration, pedestrian and support buildings
- New southbound roadway and inspection facilities to be constructed by Mexico

PLANNING EFFORTS CONTINUE AS CONSTRUCTION TIMETABLE BEING SET

Master planning for the project has been finished and construction documents for the selected plan are moving into development. The design work for the architectural and engineering elements of the project is also underway. In addition, GSA has been meeting with the U.S. Customs and Border Protection agency, the primary tenant of the Port of Entry facilities, to identify and set construction timelines for the work that will commence this year.

According to the GSA, the project will be developed in four phases:

- Phase 1A – Supporting Infrastructure
- Phase 1 – Northbound Capacity (primary inspection booths and property acquisition)
- Phase 2 – Northbound Buildings
- Phase 3 – Southbound Roadway and Facility